

SOUTHWESTER

A Monthly Non-Profit Publication of the Southwest Community Council, Inc.

SERVING NEAR SOUTHWEST/SOUTHEAST

Partially funded by a grant from East Coast Development Corporation

November 1994



Portal Funds Go Unused

Kate Mulligan

During the last four years, the Southwest community has lost thousands of dollars available from the developers of properties in the area. Portal Development Associates (PDA) agreed to provide \$175,000 each year for local community programs and services in return for the right to develop two land parcels—the sites of the Fairmont Hotel and the commercial complex near the Southwest terminus of the 14th Street Bridge. Funding began in 1991 and is available for 10 years from that date.

Albert "Butch" Hopkins, Jr., one of two developer representatives who review funding requests, expressed surprise to a Southwester reporter that requests had not been received for the full amount available. "That's like passing up a chance to go to the bank and get their money." He provided a list of approved grants (See sidebar).

Hopkins said that [community representatives] "thought if they didn't request the full amount in one year, it should be added to the total for the next, but we said 'no.'" He readily agreed, however, that if funds can not be dispersed because of financial problems of the developers, the obligations are carried over to the next year. This year, for the first time, Portals' developers have not dispersed the funds for approved requests. Hopkins said that those unpaid obligations will be carried over into 1995 and will not count against the allocation for that year.

According to figures supplied by Hopkins, only \$386,596 has been granted to Southwest agencies, slightly more than half of the developers' obligation of \$700,000 for the 4-year period beginning in 1991. Why has the community been unable to take full advantage of this valuable resource?

PDA and the Southwest community have a long, complicated and sometimes, contentious relationship. Their shared history began in 1981 when PDA first bid to develop sites in Southwest. An early community plan submitted to the Redevelopment Land Agency (RLA) called for \$150,000 per year in youth job salaries for 10 years plus \$25,000 for administrative costs and \$25,000 for cultural programs. The funds were to be administered by a panel of four, which would include representatives of PDA, Department of Employment Services (DES), RLA and ANC 2-D. The addition of the Fairmont Hotel to the development added another member to the Panel, resulting in what is now called the Panel of Five. The panel was to be advised by a community board consisting of presidents of 25 community organizations.

PDA proposed that the ANC monitor the grants that would be made to community agencies, but community representatives decided instead to set up a separate organization that could receive other kinds of funding and funds from future development projects. That organization, the Wiley Branton Community Development Corporation (WBCDC), is responsible for publicizing the grant program, reviewing applications, and making recommendations to the Panel of Five, which consists of Hopkins and James Dowdy, representing the developers, representatives of DES and the Department of Housing and Community Development, and the President of the ANC, Charles Hargrave in 1992-1993, and Loretta Reeves in 1994.

Considerable energy has been spent on a long-standing controversy between the developers and WBCDC concerning administrative costs. Hopkins said, "When the proposal was made to RLA, we discussed \$150,000 to develop projects in the Southwest community. We also discussed \$25,000 that was for cultural activities and \$25,000 that was listed as an administrative cost. The \$150,000 is still there and the \$25,000 for cultural is still there. The \$25,000 in administrative fees is paid to the Office of Business and Community Assistance (OBCA)." OBCA is responsible for monitoring all aspects of the Community Participation Plan, including compliance by contractors and subcontractors with Affirmative Action regulations.

Representatives of the WBCDC have contended that the \$25,000 listed for administrative costs should go to that organization. But, the developers have a different view of how grant funds should be used. Hopkins said, "We didn't want to get into the situation where we were just funding administrative staff of organizations. We thought we should be utilized as a different sort of resource...But if they [WBCDC] had a program that would benefit the elderly, provide scholarships or toys at Christmas or food at Thanksgiving, they would be eligible like anyone else to receive funds." He added, "Just once did we allow a payment of \$25,000 to go to WBCDC. When we made that grant, we stressed that it was for one time."

The controversy over administrative costs concerns \$25,000 a year. Each year, without community outcry, considerably larger sums go unused. C.W. Hargraves, who was the community representative on the Panel of Five for two years, points to a number of problems. "Keep in mind that if you don't apply for the funds, you can't complain about not getting them. I

Candidate's Forum

The Southwest Neighborhood Assembly (SWNA) and ANC2D co-sponsored a "Meet the Candidates Forum" on Wednesday, November 2 at St. Matthews Church.

About 150 people attended and that made us aware that our community really cares about city and ANC candidates. The meeting was opened and closed by John Brown, president of SWNA. Margaret Feldman served as moderator for much of the evening - she introduced the ANC candidates, as well as those running for the school board and the candidates for the city council. Of special interest was the Ward 2 School Board Race. Four of the candidates were from S.W. They were David Brewer, Judy Hodgkiss, Willie Lloyd Reeves and Ann Wilcox.

Mayoral Candidate Carol Schwartz spoke but Marion Barry did not attend although he had been invited. People were disappointed that they did not get a chance to hear these two debate one another.

The general feeling was that it was an evening well spent and all of us learned something.



Ann Wilcox is the new School Board member. She attended the SWNA Candidate's Forum. She lives in Capitol Park.

[See more forum photos on p. 3]

Holiday Party

Phillips Restaurant will "host" a Holiday party at Phillips. Save Monday, December 19, 6:30 p.m. and come eat, drink and meet your neighbors. Bring a wrapped present for a boy or a girl (no more than \$5.00) SWNA will donate gifts. *Phillips is at 900 Water Street, S.W.*



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Southwest Community Calendar

- Nov. 30 Wed. NARFE Chapter 2052, Southwest Branch Library, 1:30 p.m.
 Dec. 3 Sat. Saint Matthew's Church Rummage Sale, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (for info. call Ms. Greene at 301-630-9296).
 Dec. 6 Tue. First District Citizens Advisory Council, First District Headquarters, 7:30 p.m.
 Dec. 10 Sat. Uniquely D.C. presents poster-sized prints of Mr. Curtis' prints to the S.W. Branch library, call for time, 727-1381.
 Dec. 10 Sat. Washington Waterfront Association 6th Annual Festival of Lights, 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
 Dec. 12 Mon. Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2D, Westminster Presbyterian Church, 7:30 p.m.
 Dec. 13 Tue. Jack Evans Holiday Party, Homer Building, 601-13th Street, N.W., 6:30 p.m.
 Dec. 19 Mon. SWNA Holiday Party, Phillips Restaurant, 900 Water Street, S.W., 6:30 p.m.
 Dec. 21 Wed. Southwest Waterfront AARP Chapter 4751 Luncheon, Pier 7 Restaurant, 11:00 a.m.

[Please submit community calendar items to C.W. Hargrave, 554-8284.]

Editorial

New Distribution Service

We on *The Southwester* are trying for 100% distribution in Southwest. We are using a combination of sources to get the paper all around. We have paid distributor who does bulk drop-offs, volunteer townhouse distributors and one more paid distributor. I believe that we have been successful in covering all but two areas. One is the area immediately surrounding S.W. House and the other is the area across from the Library, from 3rd St. to Delaware Ave. We are working on each of these.

Some of you may have noticed our absence from the Safeway, this store now uses an outside contractor who charges \$20.00 per month (to be paid by each "newspaper company") just to take care of free newspapers. We decided to spend that money in other (and we hope) better ways.

EDITOR & MANAGER

Carole Early
488-3355

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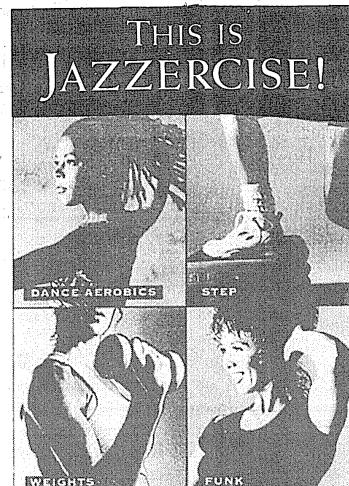
LAYOUT

Nathaniel Polster

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Bob Omohondro
484-8470

Drop off stories by the 12th of the month in the box behind the counter at the S. W. Library - 3rd & I(Eye) SW - or mail to: **The Southwester**, P.O. 17031, DC 20024



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Mon/Tues/Wed - 6:30 pm
Sat - 8:30am & 9:15am

Information No. 202-363-4447

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I am appalled at the poor, almost non-existent coverage given to the recent Advisory Neighborhood Commission elections in *The Southwester*, our community newspaper.

As you are aware, individual Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner candidates were not included in "A Candidates List for Ward 2 Voters" (page 9, October 1994 issue). In fact, no commissioners were named anywhere in the issue. As a matter of information, four current Commissioners were running for re-election while a new candidate was listed for one Single Member District and one person was running a write-in campaign for the other Single Member District.

It is important that *The Southwester* cover the activities and actions of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2D especially the election process. I ask that a forthcoming issue provide detailed information on the newly elected 2D Commissioners. Please give better coverage to ANC-2D.

Charles W. Hargrave
Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner
Single Member District 2D-02

Dear Mr. Hargrave,

Thank you for your letter regarding Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) coverage. I respect and appreciate your work in the community, especially your efforts with the Advisory Neighborhood Commission and *the Southwester*.

I recognize that *the Southwester* should have reported (in the October issue) on the ANC race. However, as you know from years with *the Southwester*, it is run by a small group of volunteers who do the bulk of the reporting.

Since we are such a small operation, we have to rely on members, such as yourself, to provide us with pertinent articles. Our aim is to report all news of interest which is relevant to Southwest.

Members of the community are encouraged to be more forthcoming in providing articles which are both newsworthy and have a community-wide appeal. Articles can be dropped off at the S.W. Library (circulation desk) by the 12th of each month.

Your concern in this important issue is appreciated, and I hope that we can continue to count on your active role in the community.

The Southwester editor



Hilda Mason, re-elected as At-Large Member of the Council at SWNA Forum



Some of the 150 people who attended the SWNA Candidate's Forum.



Candidates for School Board



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GREAT PROGRAM ANNOUNCED BY ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF) has awarded the District \$400,000 to establish a Gang Resistance Education and Training (GREAT) program for young people in crime-ridden areas. These are the first funds available to the District from the Crime Bill enacted by Congress earlier this year.

Congresswoman Norton said: "These funds mean even more than they usually would because the District's financial crisis precludes its funding even priorities such as prevention of youth gang activities. I will be pressing relentlessly for other funds to bolster the District every part of the federal budget."

A nine-week program for seventh-graders led by specially trained police officers, the GREAT program helps students set goals for themselves, resist peer pressure, resolve conflicts without violence, and understand how gangs and youth violence affect the quality of their lives. The GREAT program has had demonstrated success in teaching children how to make informed choices and how to take responsibility for their actions.

ATF officials will work with D.C. police to target areas that are particularly threatened by gang activity. Congresswoman Norton said that having police officers teach the program will allow children to develop more positive impressions of law enforcement officials. "It's imperative that children understand that police officers aren't their enemies and that fighting crime is a joint effort between communities and law enforcers."



Does anyone recognize this street?

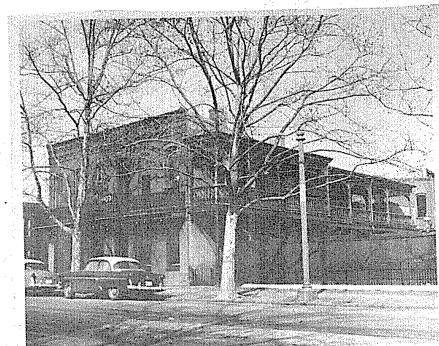


Herzog's Seafood was on the 2nd floor.

50 Years Ago in S.W.



Hogates Seafood Restaurant



Halls Restaurant

Two Southwest Poets

by Zeba T. Khan

MARGARET OLIVER

Since her last interview with the *Southwester* in 1992, Margaret Oliver has been comfortably busy. This former North Carolinian's latest publication, Another Twenty-Five - a Collection of Original Poems, is a remarkable gathering of her everyday observations.

Once a postal worker and now a Smithsonian employee, Oliver reflects on daily occurrences of wide encompassing subjects including dogs, football and church in her third book. Oliver explains that she writes "to tweak the conscience and the memory." Inspired by other noble writers such as Maya Angelou and Paul Lawrence Dunbar, her unique style is smooth and effortless, and she interprets her world to us in unhurried lyrics.

Besides providing richly entertaining reading, Oliver contributes valuable insight into the community in which we live by addressing what society typically ignores. In "Street Beggar", the story of a homeless man is brought into our awareness. Rather than being a mere fixture on the street corner, he is given a personal history by Oliver.

By the way his dignity shows itself
Every once in a while
You can tell he wasn't forever
homeless
Security and love were his as a
child

Through Oliver's storytelling, an ordinary vagrant is transformed and humanized, and it becomes impossible not to feel an affinity with him and an alliance to the world around us.

In other poems, such as "Freedom for Two" and "Maybe the End of Jim", Oliver turns away from our public relationships and pursues our more private ones. Here, Oliver explores romantic themes and the conflicts which inevitably come with them. In the latter poem, the nar-



tor comes to the sudden realization that her lover is a two-timer when she meets Jim's "other woman". Apparently Jim, a travelling salesman, has been spending every other week with one of these unsuspecting women. The two women unite and decide to give Jim a little surprise of his own when he comes calling.

When he returned to my house
We both met him at the door
Jim took one look and ran away
We never saw him anymore

Incidentally, "Jim" is not only a notable symbol repeatedly portrayed in Oliver's books, but also, she jokingly adds, "You can rhyme a lot of stuff with Jim."

Humor aside, Oliver's poems ultimately delve into the relationship between ourselves and the surrounding environment, often focusing on things we take for granted. Oliver urges us to begin paying attention to just those matters and to our own hidden desires and prejudices. Without preaching and by example, Oliver invites us to examine and to learn from our reactions with life's seemingly ordinary events and to subsequently enrich ourselves. We should all take her advice and, as she suggests, recite a poem with someone we know, rather than going to another bad movie.

For her future outlook, Oliver plans to keep on writing. Currently, she is compiling material for yet another book. She also will soon be busy entertaining her son, a lieutenant commander in the Navy, when he comes to the Washington area for a visit. Her books are available at Rainbow Records and Books and the Reprint Book Shop.

BRAVE AND DIGNIFIED

by Margaret H. Oliver

He is without the power of sight
He works everyday
On a job 3 miles from home
He walks every step of the way

You see them in motorized chairs
The bravest of the brave
Defying traffic, weather, and crime
Each outing cheats the grave

She can't hear that bird singing
Nor the baby crying at her breast
But she can see the bird and the baby
Her imagination does all the test

They adjust as their needs demand
They are willing to carry their own weight
For whatever they lack or are short of
They find ways to compensate

They need neither your sympathy nor your pity
Maybe, just maybe, a hand now and then
And like everybody else does
They need to be and to have a friend

They bear the different burdens
Ones they'd probably never select They carry
them magnificently
Showing dignity, Showing self-respect.

JOHARI RASHAD

On Johari Mashsin Rashad's dining table, a journal permanently rests. It is not one written in daily, but only, as Rashad reveals, "when the inspiration hits." Within the journal's confines exist a world of this writer's passions, ambitions and apprehensions which have been composed as a map of healing for herself and her readers. However, do not make the mistake of referring to her exclusively as a poet when you read one of her many elegant poems, because like her work, she is difficult to categorize.

She writes both fiction and non-fiction, and her last book of poetry, Steppin Over the Glass, won first place in women's issues by the Chicago Women in Publishing in 1992. She is a fourth generation Washingtonian who attended St. Cecelia, an all-girls Catholic school, on North Capitol Street before attending Howard University and the District of Columbia. She distinctly supports the importance of spirituality and having shied away in the past from orthodox religion, Rashad is now a member of the All-Souls Unitarian Church. She lives with her 22-year old daughter Chekesha and is currently engaged on her dissertation work.

Rashad writes in both poetry and prose and enjoys experimenting with diverse forms of the written word. Her ventures have even entailed producing and starring in a local two-woman play. She also ardently defends poetry's role as a stress reliever and as therapy. Rashad declares, "poetry is a way for me to record events" and she writes "when I'm sad and when I need to think things through."

Presently, Rashad is writing a book on child rearing specifically geared for single parents. Her one major bit of guidance to parents is "have a healthy dose of selfishness." She also draws attention in illuminating the ignorance surrounding African-American stereotypes and the myth of automatic dysfunction that accompanies them. To bridge these and other obstacles in the community, Rashad argues that one significant way can be through giving youths an opportunity to express themselves, and she would like to participate with them in a writing workshop. With absolute certainty, we can have faith that Johari Rashad would be the ideal teacher for the role. Contact *The Southwester* for information on obtaining her books.



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For interested and motivated individuals, there is an opportunity to become a plumbing apprentice and enter a field that is much in demand.

Applicants must be 18 years of age and have a High School Diploma or GED. Applications are accepted in person at 8509 Ardwick-Ardmore Road, Landover, Maryland, 20785. Bring a birth certificate, high school diploma or GED, certificate and a transcript of grades [must be sent directly from high school or be an original copy bearing the school's seal] or G.E.D. test scores.

Dates for the next application period will be January 9, 11, 13, 16, 18, and 20, from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. Those persons interested in applying for next year's classes should contact this office in December 1994 at (301)322-8810. Applicants must be dependable, reliable individuals, willing to work 40 hours a week at jobs often located outside the Beltway, plus attend classes 2 nights a week.

Length of training is five years on-the-job and related training. Apprentices receive on-the-job training while working productively for a plumbing contractor. The apprentices will work under the supervision of a journeyman plumber. The apprentice will perform such job assignments as the journeyman plumber designates. This work will include performing skills of the trade, helping the journeyman plumber and performing menial tasks necessary for completion of the job.

Apprentices are required to attend a related training program, minimum of 216 hours each year. This program includes classroom instruction in math, drawing, blueprint reading, science, theory, first aid, and plumbing codes. The apprentice receives shop classes in various methods of joining and installing pipe, welding, safety, and repair work. These classes are held two nights a week, each week from September until June.

The apprentice is paid by the hour only for those hours worked. The apprentice wages are based on the journeyman plumbers wages: 1st year - 40% of journeyman pay, 2nd year - 50%, 3rd year - 60%, 4th year - 75%, 5th year - 85%.

After satisfactorily completing a probationary period of one year, the apprentice is sworn in as a member of the Local Union at which time he or she must pay initiation fee.

The Joint Apprentice Training Committee's recruitment, selection, employment and training of apprentices during their apprenticeship, shall be without discrimination because of race, color, religion, national origin or sex, age, or disability. The JATC will take affirmative action to provide equal opportunity in apprenticeship and will operate the apprenticeship program as required under Federal and State Laws and regulations governing equal employment.

SPOTLIGHT ON OUR COMMUNITIES
Capitol Park

For the second year, Capitol Park, a rental community with offices at 301 G Street, S.W. is collecting Safeway register tapes for one of the community's public schools. The lucky recipient this year is the Anthony Bowen school. The residents of Capitol Park have saved \$25,000 in the register tapes which Safeway has doubled through October 31, 1994. This fine educational program continues through March, 1995. Last year, with the help of Amidon's parents, the residents were able to help purchase a computer for that school. Last year, and again this year, Capitol Park Apartments participated in the 'TOYS FOR TOTS' campaign originated by the Marines. Many of their residents do double duty and volunteer their time and resources in a number of organizations.

Among them are the Boys and Girls Club, So Others May Eat Kitchen, Martha's Table, Building Bridges, Border Babies, and Lawyers for the Arts. The Capitol Park rental community has been continually upgraded for the past ten years. The people who live there have a unique way to relax. The marketing director began a poetry and play reading group. This creative group of residents meets once a month. Their musings take the unnatural turn of dialogues between members and guests. Their search for artistic truth is wonderful to behold. It is a delightful way to 'unlax' after the stresses of the day and energizes the group to continue to reach out to the larger community that surrounds them. Capitol Park's management philosophy is quite simple. They recognize that they are a part of a larger community and to that end are dedicated to giving back what they have been so fortunate to have received. These leisure programs do a tremendous amount to promote good mental health among the residents. All around us we see how life is being devalued. Not so at Capitol Park. They value life and celebrate the diversity within their walls. They are a community with a BIG HEART. They would like to extend an invitation to you, the readers of this paper and members of the Southwest community to come visit and see for yourselves what makes them tick.

The Southwester encourages members of other developments to let us hear from you. We want this to "spotlight" each and every area of Southwest. Just drop your article off at the Branch Library.



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MASSES

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12:15 and 5:15 pm

HOLYDAYS: Evening before: 5:30 pm; day of:

7:30 am, 8:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30 and 5:30 pm

WEEKDAYS: 7:30 pm, 8:00, 8:20 and 12:10 p.m.

SATURDAY: 8:20 am and 12:10 pm

WASHINGTON'S FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

The 6th annual Festival of Lights, sponsored by the Washington Waterfront Association, is scheduled for Saturday, December 10, 1994, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. In case of inclement weather, it will be held the following day.

As in the past, boaters moored at Gangplank and Capital Yacht Club are encouraged to decorate their boats for the holiday. Invitations have been extended to all other yacht clubs in the area to join the parade of decorated boats in the Washington Channel. Prizes will be awarded to the most festively decorated boats.

In addition, Santa Claus will arrive on the fireboat John H. Glenn

For more information, call Randy Goldman or Betty Pyne at Phillips of Washington, 202-488-8515.

LITTLE RECRUITS SOUGHT FOR RIVER PARK NURSERY SCHOOL

by Diana Payne

River Park Nursery School has been a part of our Southwest community since 1963 when it first opened as an independent school located in the River Park Mutual Homes Housing Cooperative. The school itself is also a cooperative—that is, parents participate in classroom activities. This has helped to foster a sense of community and a network of neighborhood connections that stretches across Southwest to Capitol Hill. Its developmentally appropriate curriculum emphasizes learning through play, feelings of self-confidence, and appropriate social skills.

Current teacher-director, Mary Rush, is a long time resident of Capitol Hill with three small children of her own, ages 6, 5, and 3. Assisted by teacher Gretchen Ninestein, and a parent, together they provide an enriching environment for the fourteen 3-5 year olds that attend. As a cooperative school, parents periodically bring juice and occasionally spend a morning at the school. Every effort is made to accommodate parent schedules, and provisions are made for parents who cannot always fulfill their co-oping duty.

Mornings begin with circle time when children and teachers assemble for a discussion of the day's activities. After circle time is music and movement, followed by a snack. Free play follows with the children making a variety of choices among fully equipped housekeeping corner, block building, woodworking, sand and water play, arts and crafts, puzzles, painting, play dough, and table games. The children then go outdoors to their own play area, where they may choose to play on climbing equipment, swings, sand, or the slide. Lunch time follows, with storytime being the last activity of the day. There are also weekly trips to the Southwest Library for the pre-school film and story hour, and monthly field trips to local places of interest.

River Park Nursery School actively seeks a student enrollment that reflects the diversity of our community. There are still a few spaces left at the school for children who were at least 3 years old, but no older than 5, by September 1st. The school is located two blocks from the waterfront at 1301 Delaware Avenue, S.W., a two-minute walk from the Waterfront Metro station. School hours are 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. five days a week. For further information on this charming school, with a very loving atmosphere and affectionate children, please call 202-484-3397. Your child will be happy you did.

CAPPER CHAMPS

Two Arthur Capper Recreation Center flag football teams won city championships and a third was runner-up.

The 13-14 age girls and 13-14 age boys each won citywide honors.

Capper's 16-18 age boys lost in the championship game.

Karl Andrews is their coach.



SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH SOUTHWEST SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE COLLEGE FAIR

The Second Baptist Church Southwest Scholarship Committee presented a college fair on Saturday, November 5, 1994, from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. The fair was held at Amidon School.

The Scholarship Committee, chaired by Ms. Vernice E. Howard, appreciates all of the support given to make this affair successful!

A special thanks to Ms. Natalie Desmond, Mr. Gilbert Ford, and Ms. Lynda Lake for their untiring efforts in public relations, printing, and program coordination.

The scholarship committee roll call also includes Ms. Louise Hall, Mrs. Letitia Nedab, Mr. Homer Newton, and Mrs. Mary Smith, along with Ms. Desmond, Ms. Lake, and Ms. Howard.

Results of ANC-2D Election

The results of the November 8th ANC Election are still not official. However, the unofficial ANC Commissioners are: Richard Westbrook-ANC2D01, Charles W. Hargrave-ANC2D02, Le Eckles-ANC2D04, and Loretta Reeves-ANC2D05. Judith Jones-ANC2D06 and Toni Cassidy-ANC2D03 waged write-in campaigns. The results of the write-in have not been finalized.



Wiley Branton--from front page]

will say this, there was delay in terms of both Wiley Branton and the Panel of Five in terms of processing the applications--unnecessary delay in my opinion in both parties. I know that in terms of the Panel of Five, it was difficult to get followup meetings. The main culprit [concerning funding] would be getting the word out to the organizations and getting those applications submitted in a timely fashion."

Ethel James Williams, who since 1992 has headed the WBCDC committee that reviews applications, disagrees vigorously. "We had a very active committee and a very committed committee that worked day and night to make certain that all those applications that came in were reviewed thoroughly. We did our job." She cites problems getting information about what proposals had been funded and when agencies could expect funds after their requests were approved. On behalf of the developers, Hopkins claims that [any delays] have been "on the part of not getting the proposals in a timely fashion."

Despite repeated efforts, we were unable to interview David Brewer, WBCDC President, and Ron Britt, an earlier president of the organization who resigned the presidency in 1993 to become Executive Director and shortly thereafter, resigned that position. We hope to present their views about the problems with funding and to learn about WBCDC's future plans.

WBCDC was intended to be more than a pass-through for grant money. It was created to promote community development--according to its brochure "to promote and improve housing in Southwest and Near Southeast D.C....and to expand business and jobs by mobilizing resources and providing training and guidance."

In 1993, WBCDC received several grants to support those activities. According to the Annual Report, the organization received grants of \$10,000 from each of the following agencies: Local Initiatives Support Corporation; Meyer Foundation, and the Community Development Support Collaborative (CDSC). The first two grants were intended to support core operating activities, and the grant from the CDSC was to pay for an organizational assessment. In May of 1993, the CDSC selected the organization to be one of 10 CDCs that would receive funding for the next three years. The CDSC granted WBCDC \$60,000 for operating during 1994. According to WBCDC Board member Williams, the Board has been working with consultants on a strategic plan.

Hargrave said, "We wrote the bylaws to provide members of the public maximum access to the workings of the organization." The 17-person Board of Directors consists of 9 members who are elected by the entire membership (any resident 18 years or age or older) and 8 members who are representatives of community organizations. The monthly meetings are to be open to all members of WBCDC. Financial records, minutes, membership lists and annual reports are to be available to any member.

Lack of information, however, appears to be a problem. Williams, the Chair of the WBCDC

Grants Review Committee, had never seen a list of funded projects, although the list was supplied in a letter from OBCA to President Brewer last June and was faxed to the Southwester within two hours after a request to Hopkins. None of the people interviewed was aware that \$25,000 is available for cultural programs in addition to the \$150,000 for other activities and none knew the extent of underfunding. According to its bylaws, WBCDC is to hold an annual meeting in November, but no one seems aware of any plans to do so.

Hargrave said, "Wiley Branton is an organization that for some reason is not working. I don't know if it's because of the way the Board is constituted or what. You have told me that they are having strategy sessions, but they had strategy sessions about a year ago. Until the community really understands what's at stake, I'm not sure anything will change."

List of Grants from Portals

In 1991, grants totalled \$140,470 and were distributed as follows. SW Neighborhood Assembly/SW Youth Activities Task Force, \$36,620; SW Community House, Inc./Senior Citizens Services Program, \$37,000; SW Neighborhood Assembly/The Southwester Newspaper, \$8,800; SW Community House, Inc./Youth Development and Outreach Program, \$19,400; Arch Training Center/Apprenticeship Program, \$7,650; SW Community House, Inc./SW Food Bank, \$6,000; Wiley Branton Community Development Corporation, \$25,000.

In 1992, grants totalled \$65,219, less than half the total of the previous year. They were allocated as follows: SW Neighborhood Assembly/Scholarship Awards, \$12,500; SW Community House, Inc./Transportation Program, \$20,000; SW Neighborhood Assembly/The Southwester Newspaper, \$6,500; Options, Inc./Life Skills Training Program, \$16,000; Arch Training Center/Apprenticeship Program, \$10,219.

In 1993, grants totalled \$37,795 and went to: SW Neighborhood Assembly/Scholarship Awards, \$12,500; SW Council, Inc./The Southwester Newspaper, \$6,500; SW Neighborhood Assembly/Summer Employment & Training Internship, \$18,795.

In 1994, grants total \$140,112 have been approved but not funded are as follows: St. Matthews Lutheran Church/After School Program, \$48,000; SW Community House, Inc./Senior Citizens Program, \$40,300; Christ United Methodist Church/After School & Saturday Program, \$23,195; SW Neighborhood Assembly/James Creek Resident Council Beautification Project, \$10,000; SW Neighborhood Assembly/The Southwester, \$5,000; SW Neighborhood Assembly/Amidon Elementary School Education and Cultural Program, \$5,617; Westminster Presbyterian Church/PEP & Triple F Project, \$8,000.

Source: Office of Business and Community Assistance

A LIST BY CONGRESSWOMAN ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

The following is a compilation of national and local achievements for the 103rd Congress, compiled by Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton, : Attaining the right to vote on the House floor; Achieving a historic House vote on D.C. Statehood; Gaining the right to recommend appointments for federal positions, including U.S. Attorney and federal District Court judges (senatorial courtesy granted by the President); averting major cuts in the District's federal payments; authoring legislation to prevent the transfer of handguns and ammunition to minors, later incorporated into the Crime Bill; Preserving the Federal Triangle building as an international complex, thus aiding the D.C. economy; leading the defeat of a 1,000-bed federal detention center that would have ruled out scarce economic development opportunities downtown; maintaining the District's right to use locally raised revenues to fund abortions for poor women; obtaining \$500,000 in federal funds to combat violence in D.C. schools; leading the fight to save locality pay raises for federal workers; spearheading the work that resulted in buyout legislation, thus protecting federal employees from lay-offs; working successfully to pass Hatch Act reform allowing federal employees to participate in campaigns in their free time; successfully pressing the bill for construction by Columbia Hospital of the first National Women's Resource Center; obtaining \$1 million for the Perry School Project to create a social services and job training center; obtaining \$1 million for the Capitol Hill Youth Anti-Crime Initiative; protecting the D.C. Council sodomy repeal law from Congressional intervention; authoring a bill to strengthen the D.C. civil and criminal justice systems by moving one-third of the cases clogging the Superior Court's civil docket to the Small Claims Court.

Congresswoman Norton emphasized that the District still faces severe challenges, foremost among them mandated cuts of \$140 million, or 4.1 percent from a \$3.4 billion budget, including 2,000 positions, plus a larger amount in order to balance the budget. Will the new Congress and new city government be as favorable?



Library

District of Columbia Public Library

Impact of 10.2% Budget Reduction

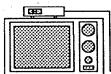
Some specific suggestions which were endorsed at the Board meeting on Wednesday, November 9, 1994.

1. Reduce service hours in 17 branch libraries to 40 hours (5 days) a week, remaining open one night a week, by reducing staff through attrition and RIFing 344 employees beginning April 1, 1995. **\$525,000** in salaries + **\$89,000** in fringe benefits
2. Close six (6) branch libraries from April 1, 1995 through September 30, 1995, RIFing 34 library employees. **\$700,000** in salaries + **\$119,000** in fringe benefits
3. Furlough each library employee for 12 days beginning after April 1, 1995 (at \$45,000 per furlough day). **\$540,000**
4. Discontinue Sunday service at MLKML beginning January 1, 1995. **\$50,000**
5. No reduction in the book budget. **\$0**

Estimated savings from these action would amount to a total of **\$2,023,000**. Estimated savings in energy, supplies, equipment, etc. **\$157,000**. Total estimated savings **\$2,180,000**.

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Information for Southwest

1. Book Party - Featuring Joy Jones
New Book Title - Between Black Women: Listening with the third ear. Also presentations of old S.W.
2:00 - 4:00
Saturday, December 10, 1994
2. Book Sale
December 13, 1994
10:00 - 4:00
Waterside Mall
3. Mitten Tree (for kids who need warm hands)
Mittens accepted
December 5 - 21st
4. Christmas Baskets for S.W. Community
Donations accepted 5 - 21st

Please help those who are in need

5. "Women's Lives: a multicultural perspective"
The first book discussion meeting will take place on Wednesday, January 18, 1995 6-7 pm
The book to be discussed at that session will be Long Distance Life by Marita Golden. Later in the year, books by Alice Walker, Anchee Min, Ntozake Shange, Terry McMillan, Flannery O'Connor, Gloria Naylor, Laura Esquivel, Marge Piercy and Toni Morrison
6. A Kwanzaa Celebration will be given by the Junior Friends of the S.W. Branch Library on Sat., Dec. 17 at 2 pm -- This is a celebration of African-American Heritage. For more info, call Mr. Abif at 727-1381



Joyce Fletcher, Adult Reference Librarian

Ms. Fletcher Joins Library

Joyce Fay Fletcher is new to the Southwest Branch Library. Ms. Fletcher is an adult reference librarian who graduated from the College of Library and Information Services at the University of Maryland at College Park in August 1994. She also holds a M.A. in English from the University of Illinois, and a B.A. in Afro-American Studies from Howard University.

Prior to becoming a librarian, Ms. Fletcher spent several years teaching English and reading at both the secondary school and college levels. She loves to read and discuss literature with others and is organizing a book discussion series entitled "Women's Lives: A Multicultural Perspective."

Men and Women of all ages are invited to attend the book discussion meeting at the library every 3rd Wednesday of each month from 6-7 p.m. Beginning January 18, 1995. At our first session, we will discuss Long Distance Life by Marita Golden.

Sign up when you pick up your book of the month at the circulation desk. Ms. Fletcher looks forward to seeing you there and hearing your views!



R. David Hall, defeated for At-Large Council member, and Linda Cropp re-elected for Council, at Southwest Assembly forum.

AREA POLICE CRACK-DOWN ON RED LIGHT RUNNERS

Accidents caused by motorists who ignore traffic signals are at an all-time high, according to the Council of Governments (COG). In just one month last year, area police wrote more than 6,000 tickets to red light runners. Beginning Monday, November 7, police begin an intensive crack-down on the thousands of red light runners in the Washington metropolitan region.

The annual "Respect Red" campaign, sponsored by the COG, will spotlight the high number of red light violations occurring throughout the region. Police agencies plan to step-up enforcement at intersections across the area. In addition, COG will distribute free "I Stop For Red Lights" bumper stickers. Placed on rear

bumpers, the stickers alert other motorists that the driver does not run traffic signals. The stickers are available at public libraries and local government offices and are paid for by contributions from GEICO Insurance Company and the Automotive Trade Association, National Capital Area (ATANCA).

Police say that increase traffic congestion and motorists rushing to make up lost time are behind the increase in red light violations.

"Many motorists think a yellow light is the last opportunity to enter an intersection, not recognizing that it really means prepare to stop," said Gary Abrecht, chief of the U.S. Capitol Police, the agency that is coordinating the effort.

Police agencies from the District of Columbia, in Virginia: Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun, Prince William, Alexandria, Falls Church, in Maryland: Montgomery, Prince George's, Frederick, Gaithersburg, Rockville, Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission Police, as well as the U.S. Capitol Police, U.S. Park Police, and Metro Transit Police are participating in the three-week crackdown.

COG will compile and report on the number of tickets issued during the campaign. For more information about the "Respect Red" campaign, contact Sergeant William Boswell, U.S. Capitol Police, (202) 224-9801 or Joseph Zelinka, COG, (202) 962-3270.

Editors Note: Several jurisdictions in D.C., Virginia, and Maryland are offering ride-alongs for reporters who want to see the signal enforcement effort in action. Please contact Stacy Pruitt at COG, (202) 962-3249, for ride-along information.

COG AWARDED HUD GRANT Four Vacancies Available in Work Study Program

As many as twelve economically disadvantaged graduate students will receive up to \$14,000 a year as a result of a federal grant recently awarded to the Council of Governments (COG). The Community Development Work Study grant provides financial assistance and work experience to local graduate students. Currently, eight students are participating in the 1994-96 program, but a total of four openings are still available to graduate students from the University of Virginia and the University of the District of Columbia.

Selected students receive up to \$14,000 per academic year for tuition assistance, internship stipends, books and tutoring. Along with financial assistance, students are placed in internships with local governments or non-profit community planning organizations. Students in the current program have internships with the Mayor's Office of Policy and Evaluation in D.C. and the Montgomery County Council.

Three graduate students from each participating university are chosen out of a pool of applicants. Participating universities include: the University of the District of Columbia, Howard University, University of Maryland/College Park, and University of Virginia/ Northern Virginia. Applicants must be full-time, first year master's degree students in community/economic development or public administration fields. The application deadline is November 30.

COG's executive director, Ruth R. Crone, says COG is pleased to administer the important HUD program. "Given the skyrocketing costs of a graduate education, the work study program is essential to help train minority and economically disadvantaged students to become tomorrow's leaders," said Crone.

Regionally, more than 200 graduate students have participated in the work study program that is funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The program was developed to encourage graduate students to pursue public administration, urban planning, or public management careers. COG has administered the work study program for 18 years.

For more information about the program, contact Annette Abbott Pope, (202) 962-3277.

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Police Awards Dinner

The 8th Annual Awards Banquet for the First District Police was Friday, November 18th. Because this event was after our deadline, we will report about it in-depth next month.



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Councilman Evans

HOLIDAY PARTY

Councilmember Evans will host his annual Holiday Party Tuesday, December 13, 1994 at 6:30pm, in the lobby of The Homer Building, located at 601 13th Street, N.W. The party is free for Ward 2 residents and their guests, however we do request that each attendee bring an unwrapped gift or book. All items will be donated to needy children throughout Ward 2.

FIGHTING CRIME

Councilmember Evans, the Metropolitan Police Department First District, and the Southwest ANC Commissioners will stage a Southwest crime meeting, in January, to determine solutions to the current crime problems. Residents of Southwest have written and called my office to express concerns about crime in their area. As a result, my staff has been in constant communication with the Metropolitan Police Department First District, working to resolve these issues. We have been - and will continue to be - supportive of neighborhoods that unite to form Orange Hat Patrol Organizations and the residents who volunteer to man the proposed mini-police station at Waterside Mall.

MEET YOUR COUNCILMEMBER

Councilmember Evans will be the guest at "Meet & Greets" in the homes of constituents throughout the Southwest area. This is an opportunity to get to know your Councilmember better and share your concerns and ideas with him in a personal atmosphere. For more details call 724-8058.

SOUTHWEST THANK YOUS

On behalf of myself and my staff, I would like to thank two of our Southwest constituents, Emma Ward and Milie Brown, both from the 1200 block of Carrollburg Place, S.W., for volunteering at my Constituent Services/Halloween/Birthday Party Fundraiser on October 28, 1994. They both contributed greatly to the success of the event.

I'LL REMEMBER YOU

by Johari Rashad

Looking back through
the clouded window
of my mind

I'll remember you.

I'll recall your laughter,
your smile

and though I may have
thanked you at the time

I want you to know
—regardless of how we parted

I'll remember you

with a smile on my face...
with sadness in my heart...
with a tear for what could have been.

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